

Message Text

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PAGE 01 AMMAN 00508 231232Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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P 230952Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3606

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM PRIORITY

S E C R E T AMMAN 0508

EXDIS

TEL AVIV AND JERUSALEM FOR SENATORS INOUE AND MATHIAS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, US, JO, XF

SUBJECT: CODEL INOUE: MEETINGS WITH KING HUSSEIN AND PRIME
MINISTER RIFAI

1. SENATORS INOUE AND MATHIAS, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR,
STAFF MEMBERS JORDAN AND ROSSITER, AND FSO MONTVILLE,
MET WITH KING HUSSEIN FOR TWO HOURS AND FIFTEEN MINUTES
AT SMALL LUNCHEON AT PRIME MINISTER'S RESIDENCE JANUARY 22.
LUNCHEON FOLLOWED BY SHORT MILITARY BRIEFING PRESENTED
AT ARMY HEADQUARTERS BY CHIEF OF STAFF LT. GENERAL
BEN SHAKER AND BY BENERAL BRIEFING OF CODEL
AND STAFF BY PRIME MINISTER. MONTVILLE TOOK EXTENSIVE
NOTES AND WILL PREPARE MEMCONS FOR CODEL. WHAT FOLLOWS
IS GENGERAL OUTLINE OF DISCUSSIONS AND POINTS WHICH
EMBASSY CONSIDERS MOST SIGNIFICATN.

2. AFTER EXPLANATION BY CHAIRMAN INOUE
OF THE UNIQUE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS FIRST SENATE
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST AND
A STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE'S OBJECT OF PROVIDING
BALANCE BY SEEING ARAB LEADERS FIRST AND THEN MOVING
ON TO ISRAEL, KING GAVE A LONG TOUR D'HORIZON BRIEFING FOR
PARTY ON FOLLOWING TOPICS: PRESENT STATE OF JORDANIAN PARTICIPATION

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IN NEGOTIATIONS; HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF

RABAT SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS AND AFTERMATH IN JORDAN;
DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATION POSSIBILITIES; EXPLANATION
OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN JOREAN, PALESTINIANS AND
PLO; REVIEW OF INTER-ARAB POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS;
DISCUSSION OF STATE OF US-JORDANIAN RELATIONS AND SIGNIFICANCE
OF US BILATERAL PROGRAMS. MAJOR POINTS WHICH KING MADE
WERE THOSE WHICH EMBASSY HAS CONSISTENTLY REPORTED AND
NOTHING NEW OR SIGNIFICANT EMERGED FROM THIS PORTION DISCUSSION.
KING DID ALSO TOUCH ON HIS RELATIONSHIPS TO GULF
STATES, HIS DECISION TO SEND ADDITIONAL FORCES TO OMAN AND
IMPORTANCE WHICH JORDAN ATTACHES TO GULF RELATIONSHIPS IN
GENERAL.

3. IN PART IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS AND ALSO AS
DEVELOPED BY KING, HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE STILL BELIEVES
JORDAN HAS ROLE OF SIGNIFICANCE TO PLAY IN NEGOTIATIONS,
JORDAN WISHES TO INSURE RESTORATION OF PALESTINIAN
RIGHTS, AND GAVE A REITERATION OF HIS FIRM BELIEF THAT THERE
IS A "SILENT MAJORITY" OF PALESTINIANS THAT DOES NOT
NECESSARILY FAVOR THE PLO AND SHOULD HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY
TO MAKE THEIR WISHES KNOWN.

4. IN RESPONSE, SENATOR INOUE DEVELOPED FOR KING BASIC
GIST OF HIS CONCERSATION WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, WHICH
HE SAID PARALLELLED THOSE WITH PRIME MINISTER HEGAZI
AND FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY. MAJOR CONCLUSIONS WERE THE
SAME AS THOSE PROVIDED TO US BY PRIME MINISTER
RIFAI AS A RESULT OF HIS MEETINGS WITH SADAT EARLIER
THIS MONTH. THE SENATOR MADE CLEAR HE BELIEVES SADAT
UNDER REAL PRESSURE AND MOVEMENT MUST COME SOON.
SENATOR ALSO DISCUSSED FOR KING RESULTS OF MEETING
WHICH HE HAD WITH NUMBER OF PLO FIGURES ARRANGED FOR
HIM BY CLOVIS MAKSUD. WE UNDERSTAND THESE PROBABLY
ALREADY REPORTED TO DEPARTMENT FROM CAIRO. SENATOR CONCLUDED
THAT PLO WAS ADOPTING ONLY SLIGHTLY VEILED STANCE OF
THREAT TOWARD ARAB RULERS AND THAT HIS HOWEVER MALEVOLENT WAS A
PRINCIPAL FACTOR IN THEIR GAINING SUPPORT. NEVERTHELESS,
SENAOTR IS CONVINCED THAT PALESTINIAN PEOPLE MUST
HAVE PLACE IN ANY SETTLEMENT AND THIS SHOULD BE PART
OF THE PRECESS TOWARD PEACE.

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5. FINALLY, SENATOR SAID THAT COMMITTEE HAD NEARLY
COMPLETED MARK-UP OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE APPROPRIATIONS
BILL. THEY HAD BEEN CONSIDERING A CUT IN BEDGET SUPPORT
FOR JORDAN ON BASIS THAT BUDGET SUPPORT WAS ORIGINALLY
PROVIDED BY US TO MAKE UP FOR WITHDRAWN KUWAITI AND
LIBYAN SUBSIDY IN 1970, TAKEN AWAY AT TIME JORDAN-PLO
CONTROVERSY BROKE OUT INTO FIGHTING. NOW THAT

KUWAITI SUBSIDY HAD BEEN SRETURNED, COMMITTEE AHD BELIEVED AT LEAST ONE PORTION OF US OBLIGATION REMOVED AND WAS CONSIDERING CUT. SENATOR SAID HOWEVER AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY AND KING, HE HAD REVISED HIS OPINION AND THAT KING AND PRIME MINISTER WOULD NOT BE DISAPPOINTED WITH ACTION HE INTENDED TO TAKE. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE PLANNED TO CARRY MESSAGE TO ISRAEL THAT PRE-EMPTIVE ATTACK ON THEIR PART AGAINST ARABS WOULD NOT BE SUPPORTED BY HIM AND OTHER SENATORS. IF ISRAEL DID THAT, THEY WOULD GO IT ALONE. SENATOR ALSO NOTED THAT COMMITTEE ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE ADDED \$10 M. FOR PALESTINIAN REFUGEES WHICH COULD BE SPENT HOWEVER EXECUTIVE BRANCH THOUGH BEST.

6. MILITARY BRIEFING COVERED IN QUICK COMPASS THREATS TO JORDAN, MILITARY REORGANIZATION, GROUND FORCE EQUIPMENT NEEDS, AND JORDAN ROLE IN HELPING IN GULF.

7. PRIME MINISTER STRESSED SIGNIFICANE OF US-JORDANIAN BILATERAL RELATIONS, JORDANIAN MODERATION AND DESIRE FOR PEACE, NECESSITY FOR RETAINING STRENGTH TO BE MODERATE, AND FRANK HOPE THAT COMMITTEE MEMBERS WOULD CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE THIS.

8. SENATOR IN REPLY REPEATED HIS VIEW THAT PRIME MINISTER WOULD NOT BE DISAPPOINTED, AND AMPLIFIED FOR THE SENIOR MILITARY OFFICERS PRESENT GENERAL APPROACH HE WOULD BE MAKEING ON THIS TRIP, AS WELL AS SOME OF THE POINTS HE WOULD BE MAKING TO ISRAEL AS EARLIER OUTLINED TO KING. MORNING JAN. 23 CODEL AND STAFF BREAKFASTED WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ON JORDANIAN DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND ASPIRATIONS.

9. COMMENT: ABOVE TWO MEETINGS REPRESENT MOST SIGNIFICANT
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SUBSTANTIVE ASPECTS OF CODEL INOUEY VISIT TO JORDAN. JORDANIANS WORKED HARD TO PREPARE THEMSELVES FOR THIS VISIT AND ARE HIGHLY PLEASED AT THE BALANCED AND EXTREMELY HELPFUL VIEW OF THEIR SITUATION AND INDEED OF THE SITUATION IN THE REST OF THE ARAB WORLD ARTICULATED BY SENATORS INOUEY AND MATHIAS. THEY ARE ALSO MOST PLEASE WITH CLEAR SUPPORT FOR THEIR BILATERAL PROGRAMS SHOWN BY SENATOR INOUEY. MILITARY OFFICERS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH SENATOR'S STATEMENT ON BALANCED VIEW TOWARDS ISRAEL AND SUPPORT OF BILATERAL PROGRAMS OF ASSISTANCE TO JORDAN INCLUDING MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND BUDGET SUPPORT.
PICKERING

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CODELS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975AMMAN00508
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750025-0753
From: AMMAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750128/aaaaayjj.tel
Line Count: 166
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <26 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL INOUE: MEETINGS WITH KING HUSSEIN AND PRIME MINISTER RIFAI
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, US, JO, XF, (INOUE, DANIEL K), (MATHIAS, CHARLES)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006